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ling Hill, Sussex Co., N. J., these three localities being the only ones at present known to me in New Jersey. The *Q. prinoides*, Willd., is widely and plentifully distributed through southern and southeastern New Jersey, where it is seldom over four feet high, and commonly fruits at six inches from the ground, occurring also in less abundance in the mountains of the northern part of the State, where it grows somewhat larger and stronger, reaching a height of eight or ten feet about Waterloo, Sussex Co. Prof. Porter has informed me that it has a wide range in Pennsylvania. It is found on Long Island, and extends northward along the coast to Massachusetts. All the numerous specimens which I have examined show a remarkable persistence of leaf and fruit characters, and if it were not assured us on the highest authority that the bushy form passes gradually into the tree in the West, I should not be at all inclined to regard them as the same species. However, as this appears to be the case, I hold that our eastern, shrubby form, is, at least, a well marked variety of Dr. Engelmann's species, and propose for it the name *Quercus Muhlenbergii*, Engelm., var. *HUMILIS*.

N. L. BRITTON.

Index to Recent American Botanical Literature.

Adventitious Inflorescence of Cuscuta glomerata known to the Germans. C. E. Bessey. (Amer. Nat., xx., pp. 278-279).

Referring to notes on this interesting subject presented by him at the Philadelphia and Ann Arbor meetings of the American Association, Prof. Bessey remarks that the matter had previously been described in Dodel-Port's *Atlas der Botanik*. Dr. Dodel-Port, after describing the normal branching, says in substance: "Besides the normal branching there is a copious formation of adventitious shoots. These are formed endogenously upon the best nourished parts of the *Cuscuta* stem, and also upon the parts which bear the haustoria, where the host-plant and the parasite are in immediate contact. The rudimentary shoot-buds are formed beneath the cortex of the *Cuscuta* stem, and break through in a manner similar to the lateral roots of vascular plants. They develop either into inflorescences, or upon injury to the rest of the plant, into vegetation shoots."

Anemonella thalictroides, Spach. Asa Gray. (Botan. Gazette, xi., p. 39.)

Dr. Gray adopts the above name for our common Rue Anemone, which was called *Thalictrum anemonoides*, Michx., in his Manual, and *Anemone thalictroides*, L., by Professor Wood. The terminal depressed-sessile stigma is foreign to both *Anemone* and *Thalictrum*, and constitutes the principal distinguishing mark of Spach's genus *Anemonella*.

Arctic Grasses. F. Lamson Scribner. (Botan. Gazette, xi., pp. 25-26, one plate.)

Professor Scribner records the discovery of *Deschampsia brevifolia*, R. Br., by Lieut. Greely near Fort Conger, Grinnell Land, in 1882, and regards it as of specific rank and not a variety of *D. cæspitosa*, Beauv.; it was also collected on Schumagin Island, Alaska, by M. W. Harrington, in 1871-72. *Phippsia algida*, R. Br., a curious little species, hitherto not known south of Alaska, was obtained about Chicago Lake; Georgetown, Colo., by H. N. Patterson, during the past season. *Agropyrum violaceum*, Hornem., was collected by Lieut. Greely at Fort Conger, and at Upper Marias Pass, Montana, by Wm. M. Canby, in 1883. Figures of the three species are given.

Botanical Notes. Mary K. Curran. (Bull. Calif. Acad. Sci., i., pp. 272-275.)

Referring to a classification of the *Eriogoneæ* as affected by some connecting forms, the genus *Nemacaulis* is referred to *Eriogonum* and a new section of the latter genus, to be called *Bracteolata*, is proposed, to contain species whose flowers within the involucre are each subtended by a spatulate bract. *E. gossypinum*, n. sp., is described. A new *Chorizanthe* (*C. insignis*) is characterized, as well as two new varieties of previously known species of this genus.

Botany of California and Parts adjacent.—Studies in the. Edward Lee Greene. (Bull. Calif. Acad. Sci., i., pp. 179-228 and 276-282.)

Three new genera, *Bebbia* of the *Compositæ*, containing two species, *B. juncea* (*Carphephorus junceus*, Benth.) and *B. atriplicifolia* (*Carphephorus atriplicifolius*, Gray), *Mimet-*

anthe, of the *Scrophularinæ*, consisting of *M. pilosa* (*Mimulus pilosus*, Watson) and *Clevelandia*, also of the *Scrophularinæ*, with a single species, *C. Beldingii* (*Orthocarpus Beldingii*, Greene), are proposed. Fifty-six new species are then described, with critical notes on many others, some of which are referred to genera other than those where they have hitherto been placed. Under the heading, "Notes on Guadalupe Island," Mr. Greene gives a general account of its flora, and a list of species hitherto found on the island, there being fifteen additions to Mr. Watson's list published in the Proceedings of the American Academy in 1876.

The second part of Mr. Greene's contribution gives a Revision of the genus *Myosurus*, which has already been criticized by Dr. Gray in the January number of this BULLETIN. *Blepharizonia* is a new genus in which are included *B. plumosa* (*Hemizonia plumosa*, Gray,) and *B. laxa* (*Hemizonia plumosa*, var. *subplumosa*, Gray.) Four new species are here characterized.

Cimicifuga racemosa, Ell. (Drugs and Medicines of N. A., i., pp. 273-288, concluded.)

The medical history and physiological action of the drug are given in this number.

Clintonia Andrewsiana, Torrey. (The Garden, xxix., p. 109.)

This Californian plant flowered in the Edinburgh Rock Garden during 1885, and information is desired by a correspondent of the above with regard to its cultivation. We believe it has never been figured.

Eastern Virginia.—*Notes on the Flora of*. Lester F. Ward. (Botan. Gazette, xi., pp. 32-38.)

Flora of the Peruvian Andes, with remarks on the History and Origin of the Andean Flora.—*Contributions to the*. John Ball, F. R. S. (Journ. Linn. Soc., xxii., pp. 1-64.

Professor Ball devotes twenty-seven pages of this communication to general considerations regarding the Flora of the region. *Compositæ* are specially abundant, 50 of the 214 species collected in the upper valley of the Rimac River belonging to that order. In the enumeration of the plants collected, twenty-five new species and varieties are characterized, among them the only *Sedum* (*S. Andinum*) hitherto found in South America.

Fremontia Californica. (The Garden, xxix., p. 8.)

A colored plate is given of this showy Californian shrub, which is abundant in the foot-hills of the Sierra Nevada. In England it is commonly grown against walls, and in such positions flowers freely and ripens seeds.

Fungi of the Pacific Coast. IV. H. W. Harkness. (Bull. Calif. Acad. Sci., i., pp. 256-271.)

A further enumeration of Californian species, including list of forms new to science, described in *Grevillea* during the past year. *Garden Lettuce—a Study of.* E. L. Sturtevant. (Amer. Nat., xx., pp. 230-233.)

At the New York Agricultural Experiment Station, in 1885, eighty-three varieties of lettuce were grown under nearly two hundred names. These present three distinct form-species—the lanceolate-leaved, the “Cos,” and “cabbage.” Mr. Sturtevant gives evidence which supports the hypothesis that these form-species have originated from wild forms which have been brought into cultivation in different regions, and hence have different origins. Lettuces are supposed to have been grown by the Persians some five hundred years before Christ, and to have been introduced into China between the years 600 and 900 of our era; they were mentioned by Chaucer in England in the fourteenth century, and reached America with Columbus.

Hookera v. Brodiaea. James Britten. (Journ. Bot., xxiv., pp. 49-53.)

It is shown that the first of these generic names must supplant the second for this beautiful liliaceous genus. *Hookera* was proposed by Salisbury (Parad. Lond, t. 98), more than a month before Smith's paper establishing *Brodiaea* was read (Trans. Linn. Soc., London, x., 2, t. 1). It was named for William Hooker, the artist who planned and illustrated the “Paradisus Londonensis.” Mr. Britten remarks that the plants placed under *Brodiaea* by Mr. Sereno Watson in his Revision of the North American Liliaceæ, must take the generic name *Hookera*, but may retain their specific names. The orthography of *Hookera* is too close to *Hookeria*, a genus of mosses, but the former has again priority of publication, so that if either is to be rejected for this reason, it must be the bryological genus.

Jamaica Ferns of Sloane's Herbarium. G. S. Jenman. (Jour. Botany, xxiv., pp. 33-43, concluded.)

An enumeration of the plants contained in this old collection, with interesting notes on many of them. A new species, *Hymenophyllum Houstonii*, is here first described.

Linnaeus—The Life and Labors of. A. P. Morgan. (Botan. Gazette, xi., pp. 26-32.

Nelumbium luteum. R. Irwin Lynch. (The Garden, xxix., p. 3.)

It is remarked that the seeds of this plant will germinate in a few days if the testa is cut through.

Ranunculaceæ.—A new genus of. Edward Lee Greene. (Bull. Calif. Acad. Sci., i., pp. 337-338.

It is proposed to refer *Ranunculus hystriculus*, Gray, to the genus *Kumlienia*, dedicated to Prof. T. L. Kumlien, on account of its terete seed and thin, bladdery pericarp, the latter character being foreign to all other *Ranunculi*. Mr. Greene remarks that his new genus is nearest *Trautvetteria*, the fruit-structure of which is similar.

Salvinia natans. (Botan. Gazette, xi., p. 48.)

Specimens of this plant, whose occurrence in the United States has hitherto been doubtful, have recently been collected by Mr. C. H. Demetrio in a bayou of Bois Brulé Creek, Perry Co., Missouri, but whether native or of accidental introduction, is yet uncertain.

Synoptical Flora of North America: The Gamopetalæ, being a second edition of Vol. i., Part ii., and Vol. ii., Part i., collected. Supplements and Indexes. Asa Gray. Published by the Smithsonian Institution, January, 1886.

The two published parts, each with a supplement, are now issued in a single volume. Both have been corrected, as far as could well be done on the electrotype plates. The supplement to Vol. i., Part i., (*Rubiaceæ—Compositæ*) is of eleven pages; that of Vol. ii., Part i., (*Ericaceæ—Plantaginaceæ*) is seventy pages long. A tabular enumeration of all the gamopetalous genera and species is appended. The indexes of each part have been made anew. In the supplement to Vol. i., Part ii., p. 448, *Dimeresia*, a new genus of *Compositæ*, is described, consisting of

a single species, *D. Howellii*, from Southeast Oregon. Greene's genus *Bebbia* is accepted. Twelve new species are described in this supplement. In that to Vol. ii., Part i., thirty new species and numerous varieties are characterized. A number of the genera are entirely revised. From the tabular arrangement of the Gamopetalæ we learn that there are now 1,783 indigenous North American species, and 102 introduced, mainly from the Old World. The supplements and indexes in pamphlet form have been issued separately from the volume.

Synthyris reniformis, Benth. (Curtis's Bot. Magazine, xlii., Tab. 6,860.)

Timber Culture in Wisconsin. F. W. Woodward, (Gard. Month., xxviii, p. 82).

Fraxinus viridis, Michx, thrives best at Eau Claire, 44° N. ; *F. Americana*, L., planted in the spring of 1884, is now 7 ft. high and 2 inches in diameter, and *Catalpa speciosa*, Warder, planted the same year, also attained 7 ft. in height and 2½ inches in diameter.

Tumble-weed. C. E. Bessey. (Botan. Gazette, xi., p. 41.)

Upon the plains and prairies of the West our common weed *Amarantus albus* grows into a compact plant whose stout, curving branches give it an approximately spherical form. The autumn winds break the main stem near the ground, and the upper part goes rolling and tumbling before the wind, often for miles. This is an excellent illustration of the effect of climate on the physical development of the plant body, as in the East the species is a straggling herb, remaining rooted long after its death at the close of the season. Dr. Newberry has told us that it is also known as the "ghost-plant" in allusion to the same habit, bunches flitting along by night producing a peculiarly weird appearance. It is doubtless very efficient in the distribution of the seeds, and accounts for the wide dissemination of the species on the plains. Professor Bessey notes a similar habit in *Baptisia tinctoria* on Martha's Vineyard, Mass., and *Panicum capillare* might also be cited as another example.

Wild Flowers under Cultivation. Ernest Volk. (Journ. Trenton Nat. Hist. Soc., i., pp. 9-16.)

Remarkable success was attained in growing *Lilium Cana-*

dense, L., and *L. superbum*, L., the latter averaging a height of ten feet, with clusters of more than fifteen flowers. The following were also successfully cultivated: *Chrysopsis Mariana*, Nutt.; *Lobelia cardinalis*, L.; *Chelone glabra*, L.; *Gentiana Andrewsii*, Griseb., and *Helenium autumnale*, L.; but failure has attended all efforts to raise *Gerardia purpurea*, L., either from root or seed, owing, probably, to its partially parasitic habit.

Xanthorrhiza apiifolia, L'Her. (Drugs and Medicines of N. A., i., pp. 289-304; Pl. xxv., figs. 99-105; with Index and Title Page to Vol. i.)

An interesting discussion of the various names by which this plant has been known, follows the botanical description. The authors discredit L'Heritier's name, and claim precedence for that of *X. simplicissima*, Marshall (Arbust. Amer., p. 168,) holding also that the genus is more closely allied to the *Berberidaceæ*, and is at present wrongly classed. The statement is made that the rhizomes are so nearly like those of *Berberis repens* and *B. aquifolium*, that they could be substituted in commerce. Furthermore, G. D. Perrins demonstrated, in 1862, that the yellow coloring matter, which gives *Xanthorrhiza* its intensely bitter taste, was berberine, and subsequent investigations have failed to discover any other alkaloid.

Botanical Notes.

A new Algological Journal.—The publication of a periodical devoted to Algæ, under the title *Notarisia Commentarium Phycologicum*, has been begun in Venice, Italy, under the editorship of Messrs. G. B. DeToni and David Levi. Systematic descriptions and illustrations of Mediterranean forms are commenced in the first number, and much other matter of interest to Algologists is presented.

A new Work on Hepaticæ.—Mr. Gotthold Hahn has recently published a small handy volume on the Liverworts of Germany, entitled “Die Lebermoose Deutschlands.” 133 species are described and 90 of them figured on twelve beautifully colored plates. By comparing the species with Professor Underwood's Catalogue of North American Hepaticæ we find that over 100 of these are represented in America. The book will therefore